

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested. Claims 1-42 and 49 have been cancelled. Claim 51 has been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's contention claims 50 and 53 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's contention claim 51 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 51 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Accordingly, claim 51 has been amended to recite the "second polarization scrambling material" thereby providing proper antecedent basis and particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which Applicant

regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 43-44, 48, 54 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 4,909,604 to Kobayashi et al. (Kobayashi).

Independent claims 43 and 56 recite a reflective polarizer. The Examiner contends Kobayashi teaches a "reflective polarizer" (3D) in Figure 1. However, element (3D) is only referred to as a polarizing plate, in column 3, line 47, and is not disclosed as a reflective polarizer. Further, nothing in the description indicates or even suggests light not matching the polarization of element (3D) is reflected. Therefore, Kobayashi does not teach all the elements of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claims 44, 48 and 54 depend directly or indirectly from claim 43 and are, therefore, patentable for at least the reasons given above in support of claim 43.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 45-47 and 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,909,604 to Kobayashi et al. (Kobayashi) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,342,932B1 to Terao et al. (Terao).

Independent claims 43 and 56 recite a reflective polarizer. The Examiner contends Kobayashi teaches a reflective polarizer (3D) in Figure 1. As discussed above, element (3D) is only referred to as a polarizing plate in column 3, line 47 and is not disclosed as a reflective polarizer. Further, Terao does not teach or suggest a reflective polarizer. Therefore, Kobayashi in view of Terao cannot teach or suggest the present invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

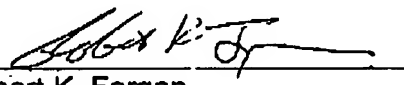
Claims 45-47 depend indirectly from claim 43 and are therefore patentable for at least the reasons given above in support of claim 43.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted by,

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